

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action dated November 3, 2006, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration based on the above claim amendments and the following remarks. Applicants respectfully submit that the claims as presented are in condition for allowance.

Claims 1-10 and 15-22 are pending. Claims 1-10 and 15-22 have been rejected. Claims 1, 10, 15 and 21 are independent claims from which claims 2-9, 16-20 and 22 respectively depend. Applicants respectfully submit that the claims, as amended, define over the prior art. No new matter has been added.

Claim 21 has been objected to. Claim 21 has been amended. Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the objection to claim 21.

Claims 15-20 have been rejected under 35 USC 101. Claim 15 has been amended to overcome the 101 rejection. Applicants respectfully submit that amended claims 15 and its dependent claims 16-20 are proper and request the withdrawal of the 101 rejections of these claims.

Claims 1-10 and 15-22 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Forbes et al., (USPN 6,381,742). Forbes is directed to software package management. A software package manager includes components for a software package and a manifest. The manifest includes a list of software dependencies for the components of the software package. Forbes does not anticipate Applicants' claims because Forbes uses a manual, human-produced provided manifest to determine the dependency information. In contrast, as recited by Applicants' claims, "the components expose their dependencies to a cooperating interface" from which a list of defined dependencies are generated. That is, the software itself discovers the dependencies, the dependencies are not provided to the software. As Forbes does not disclose or suggest at least these features, Applicants submit that these claims are allowable and request the withdrawal of the 102 rejections of these claims.

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**PATENT
REPLY FILED UNDER EXPEDITED
PROCEDURE PURSUANT TO
37 CFR § 1.116**

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the present Application is in condition for allowance. Withdrawal of the rejections of the claims and an early allowance is earnestly solicited.

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